



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Labor & Workforce Development Agency

GOVERNOR Edmund G. Brown Jr. • SECRETARY David Lanier

Agricultural Labor Relations Board • California Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board
California Workforce Investment Board • Department of Industrial Relations
Employment Development Department • Employment Training Panel • Public Employment Relations Board

February 27, 2017

The Honorable Autumn Burke
State Assemblymember
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0062

Dear Assemblymember Burke:

Thank you for your letter dated February 9, 2017 providing public comment on the Employment Development Department's (EDD) Workforce Service Draft Directive (WSDD-160). I would like to take this opportunity to address some of your concerns.

Over the last two years, in part with funding from the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), California has been rebuilding its workforce development system. This effort requires that the state not only align programs based on policy and vision, but also that it better integrate and coordinate the use of performance and case management data to deliver services and assess program effectiveness. At the same time, the federal WIOA requires states to develop strategies that align technology and data systems across one-stop partner programs to improve services and create efficiencies in performance reporting. Similarly, the U.S. Department of Labor has directed states to reduce duplication and improve WIOA programs through the sharing of services, resources, and technologies.

As part of this systems change, the EDD has issued WSDD-160, which requires that by October 1, 2017 all local workforce development boards collect and report participant data using CalJOBSSM. When CalJOBS was implemented in 2014, the EDD engaged the state's Local Workforce Development Areas (local areas) in discussions with the intent that all would become direct users of the system. Since that time, EDD has regularly made improvements to CalJOBS to meet local area needs. In 2014, only 18 local areas were direct users of CalJOBS. Now 38 out of the 46 local areas are currently using the system to directly enter their data. In addition, three more have already committed to transition to CalJOBS, meaning only five local areas are affected by this directive.

Requiring that all local areas transition to directly entering data into CalJOBS is consistent with the state's plan for system alignment. A more integrated data system will increase efficiencies in data reporting, performance measurement and case management of clients. This in turn supports more customer-centered service delivery and provides a greater ability to evaluate and invest in programs that lead to good jobs. It also enables local boards to redirect WIOA funds currently spent on third party case management systems back into the community.

Local areas play a key role in California's workforce development programs, and we are committed to ensuring they make a seamless transition to CalJOBS. The Department's CalJOBS operations team is working with the local areas to identify challenges and develop plans to address their concerns during the one-year transition period.

Thank you for your interest and longstanding support of California's workforce development system. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



David M. Lanier
Secretary

cc: Mr. Patrick Henning, Director, Employment Development Department
Mr. Tim Rainey, Executive Director, California Workforce Development Board